

CLAIMS:

1. A communication partner device (2A)
 which belongs to a communication system (1) having at least two such
communication partner devices (2A, 2B) and
 which is designed to communicate with another communication partner device
5 (2B) of the communication system (1) over a first communication channel (4), wherein one
of the two communication partner devices (2A, 2B) contains a communication enable
information item (CEIA, CEIB) which is used to enable communication between the one
communication partner device (2A) and the other communication partner device (2B) over
the first communication channel (4), and
10 which is designed to interact with an electrical circuit (14A), which circuit
(14A) has circuit parts for forming communication means (5A) which are designed for
contactless communication with communication means (5B) of the other communication
partner device (2B) over a second communication channel (7) and which, in the event of
communication over the second communication channel (7), are designed to make available
15 the communication enable information item (CEIA, CEIB), necessary for enabling
communication over the first communication channel (4), in the communication partner
device (2A, 2B) which prior to communication over the second communication channel (7)
does not yet contain the communication enable information item (CEIA, CEIB).
- 20 2. A communication partner device (2A) as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the
communication means (5A) are designed to make available the communication enable
information item (CEIA, CEIB) directly after the start of communication over the second
communication channel (7).
- 25 3. A communication partner device (2A) as claimed in Claim 2,
 wherein the communication means (5A) are designed, in the event of
communication over the second communication channel (7), to communicate in accordance
with a communication protocol, and

wherein the communication means (5A) are designed to make available the communication enable information item (CEIA, CEIB) by using at least one of two activation commands (39, 59) of the communication protocol, which activation commands (39, 59) can be communicated between the two communication partner devices (2A, 2B) in accordance with the communication protocol as first commands over the second communication channel (7) and are provided in order to activate communication in compliance with the communication protocol.

4. A communication partner device (2A) as claimed in Claim 1,

wherein the communication means (5A) are designed to receive the communication enable information item (CEIB), contained in the other communication partner device (2B), over the second communication channel (7), and

wherein the circuit (14A) has a provision stage (27'') which is designed to provide the communication enable information item (CEIB), received by the communication means (5A), for enabling communication over the first communication channel (4).

5. A communication partner device (2A) as claimed in Claim 1, wherein

communication start means are provided which are designed to interact with the communication means (5A) and are designed to use the communication enable information item (CEIB) of the other communication partner device (2B), which can be made available, to start communication with the other communication partner device (2B) over the first communication channel (4) as soon as the communication enable information item (CEIB) has been made available by the communication means (5A).

6. A communication partner device (2A) as claimed in Claim 1,

wherein the communication partner device (2A) has storage means (12A) which are provided for storing the communication enable information item (CEIA) contained therein, and

wherein the circuit (14A) has an interrogation stage (27') which is designed to interrogate the communication enable information item (CEIA) stored in the storage means (12A), and

wherein the communication means (5A) are designed to transmit the communication enable information item (CEIA), which can be interrogated, to the

communication means (5B) of the other communication partner device (2B) over the second communication channel (7).

7. A communication partner device (2A) as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the communication enable information item (CEIA) contains an interface type information item (ITTA) which signifies a type of interface (9, 10, 11) that is available in the communication partner device (2A) containing the communication enable information item (CEIA), which interface (9, 10, 11) is designed for communication over the first communication channel (4).

8. A communication partner device (2A) as claimed in Claim 7, wherein the communication enable information item (CEIA) contains, in addition to the interface type information item, an interface preference information item (IPIA) which signifies an interface (9, 10, 11) that is preferred in the communication partner device (2A) containing the communication enable information item (CEIA).

9. A communication partner device (2A) as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the communication enable information item (CEIA) contains an interface designation information item (ISNA) which signifies an interface (9, 10, 11) that is available in the communication partner device (2A) containing the communication enable information item (CEIA), which interface (9, 10, 11) is designed for communication over the first communication channel (4).

10. A communication partner device (2A) as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the communication enable information item (CEIA) contains a communication partner designation information item (CDIA) which signifies the communication partner device (2A) that contains the communication enable information item (CEIA).

11. A circuit (14A) for a communication partner device (2A), which communication partner device (2A) belongs to a communication system (1) having at least two such communication partner devices (2A, 2B) and is designed to communicate with another communication partner device (2B) of the communication system (1) over a first communication channel (4), wherein one of the two communication partner devices (2A, 2B) contains a communication enable information item (CEIA, CEIB) which is used to enable

communication between the one communication partner device (2A) and the other communication partner device (2B) over the first communication channel (4),

which circuit (14A) has circuit parts for forming communication means (5A)

which are designed for contactless communication with communication means

5 (5B) of the other communication partner device (2B) over a second communication channel (7) and which, in the event of communication over the second communication channel (7), are designed to make available the communication enable information item (CEIA, CEIB), necessary for enabling communication over the first communication channel (4), in the communication partner device (2A, 2B) which prior to communication over the second
10 communication channel (7) does not yet contain the communication enable information item (CEIA, CEIB).

12. A circuit (14A) as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the communication means (5A) are designed to make available the communication enable information item (CEIA, CEIB) directly after the start of communication over the second communication channel (7).
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13. A circuit (14A) as claimed in Claim 12, wherein the communication means (5A) are designed, in the event of communication over the second communication channel (7), to communicate in accordance
20 with a communication protocol, and wherein the communication means (5A) are designed to make available the communication enable information item (CEIA, CEIB) by using at least one of two activation commands (39, 59) of the communication protocol, which activation commands (39, 59) can be communicated between the two communication partner devices (2A, 2B) in accordance
25 with the communication protocol as first commands over the second communication channel (7) and are provided in order to activate communication in compliance with the communication protocol.

14. A circuit (14A) as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the communication means (5A) are designed to receive the communication enable information item (CEIB), contained in the other communication partner device (2B), over the second communication channel (7), and
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wherein the circuit (14A) has a provision stage (27'') which is designed to provide the communication enable information item (CEIB), received by the communication means (5A), for enabling communication over the first communication channel (4).

5 15. A circuit (14A) as claimed in Claim 11,
wherein the circuit (14A) has an interrogation stage (27') which is designed to interrogate the communication enable information item (CEIA) contained in the communication partner device (2A), and
10 wherein the communication means (5A) are designed to transmit the communication enable information item (CEIA), which can be interrogated, to the communication means (5B) of the other communication partner device (2B) over the second communication channel (7).

16. A circuit (14A) as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the communication enable
15 information item (CEIA) contains an interface type information item (ITTA) which signifies a type of interface (9, 10, 11) that is available in the communication partner device (2A) containing the communication enable information item (CEIA), which interface (9, 10, 11) is designed for communication over the first communication channel (4).

20 17. A circuit (14A) as claimed in Claim 16, wherein the communication enable information item (CEIA) contains, in addition to the interface type information item, an interface preference information item (IPIA) which signifies an interface (9, 10, 11) that is preferred in the communication partner device (2A) containing the communication enable information item (CEIA).

25 18. A circuit (14A) as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the communication enable information item (CEIA) contains an interface designation information item (ISNA) which signifies an interface (9, 10, 11) that is available in the communication partner device (2A) containing the communication enable information item (CEIA), which interface (9, 10, 11) is
30 designed for communication over the first communication channel (4).

19. A circuit (14A) as claimed in Claim 11, wherein the communication enable information item (CEIA) contains a communication partner designation information item

(CDIA) which signifies the communication partner device (2A) that contains the communication enable information item (CEIA).

20. A communication enabling method for enabling communication over a first communication channel (4) between a communication partner device (2A) which belongs to a communication system (1) having at least two such communication partner devices (2A, 2B), and another communication partner device (2B) of the communication system (1), wherein one of the two communication partner devices (2A, 2B) contains a communication enable information item (CEIA, CEIB) and

wherein the communication enable information item (CEIA, CEIB) is used to enable communication between the one communication partner device (2A) and the other communication partner device (2B) over the first communication channel (4) and

wherein contactless communication is effected over a second communication channel (7) using communication means (5A) of the one communication partner device (2A) and using communication means (5B) of the other communication partner device (2B) and

wherein, in the event of such communication over the second communication channel (7), the communication enable information item, necessary for enabling communication over the first communication channel (4), is made available in the communication partner device (2A, 2B) which prior to communication over the second communication channel (7) does not yet contain the communication enable information item (CEIA, CEIB).

21. A method as claimed in Claim 20, wherein the communication enable information item (CEIA, CEIB) is made available directly after the start of communication over the second communication channel (7).

22. A method as claimed in Claim 21

wherein, in the event of communication over the second communication channel (7), communication is effected in accordance with a communication protocol, and

wherein the communication enable information item (CEIA, CEIB) is communicated between the two communication partner devices (2A, 2B) in accordance with the communication protocol over the second communication channel (7) by using at least one of two activation commands (39, 59) of the communication protocol, which activation

commands (39, 59) are transmitted as first commands of the communication protocol in order to activate communication in compliance with the communication protocol.

23. A method as claimed in Claim 20,

5 wherein, with the aid of the communication means (5A), the communication enable information item (CEIB) is received over the second communication channel (7) and

wherein, with the aid of a provision stage (27'') which is designed to provide the communication enable information item (CEIB) received by the communication means (5A), the communication enable information item (CEIB) for enabling communication over
10 the first communication channel (4) is provided.

24. A method as claimed in Claim 20, wherein, with the aid of communication start means which are designed to interact with the communication means (5A) and are designed to use the communication enable information item (CEIB) of the other

15 communication partner device (2B), which has been provided, to start communication with the other communication partner device (2B) over the first communication channel (4), communication with the other communication partner device (2B) over the first communication channel (4) using the communication enable information item (CEIB) which has been made available is started as soon as the communication enable information item
20 (CEIB) has been made available by the communication means (5A).

25. A method as claimed in Claim 20,

wherein, with the aid of an interrogation stage (27') which is designed to interrogate the communication enable information item (CEIA) stored in storage means
25 (12A) of the one communication partner device (2A), the stored communication enable information item (CEIA) is interrogated by the storage means (12A) and

wherein, with the aid of the communication means (5A), the communication enable information item (CEIA), which has been interrogated by the storage means (12A), is transmitted to the communication means (5B) of the other communication partner device
30 (2B) over the second communication channel (7).

26. A method as claimed in Claim 20, wherein the communication enable information item (CEIA) contains an interface type information item (ITTA) which signifies a type of interface (9, 10, 11) that is available in the communication partner device (2A)

containing the communication enable information item (CEIA), which interface (9, 10, 11) is designed for communication over the first communication channel (4).

27. A method as claimed in Claim 26, wherein the communication enable information item (CEIA) contains, in addition to the interface type information item (ITTA), an interface preference information item (IPIA) which signifies an interface (9, 10, 11) that is preferred in the communication partner device (2A) containing the communication enable information item (CEIA).

28. A method as claimed in Claim 20, wherein the communication enable information item (CEIA) contains an interface designation information item (ISNA) which signifies an interface (9, 10, 11) that is available in the communication partner device (2A) containing the communication enable information item (CEIA), which interface (9, 10, 11) is designed for communication over the first communication channel (4).

29. A method as claimed in Claim 20, wherein the communication enable information item (CEIA) contains a communication partner designation information item (CDIA) which signifies the communication partner device (2A) that contains the communication enable information item (CEIA).